

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION--DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
FEBRUARY 20, 2007**

ITEM 4

SUBJECT

INFORMATION ITEM: DISCUSSION OF 2006 SECTION 303(d) LISTING OF HUMBOLDT BAY FOR DIOXINS

DISCUSSION

On October 25, 2006, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) approved the 2006 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments [2006 Section 303(d) list], as State Water Board Resolution No. 2006-0079. At that meeting, the State Water Board agreed with staff's recommendation, based on comments received prior to the meeting, to include Humboldt Bay on the 2006 Section 303(d) list for dioxins.

Since the October 25, 2006 Board meeting, some commenters have argued that the listing of Humboldt Bay was procedurally improper because the proposed list, which was circulated to the public, did not list Humboldt Bay for dioxins. Comments have also been submitted calling into question the technical basis for the listing of Humboldt Bay for dioxins. The commenters have expressed technical concerns including: whether data analysis was adequate, whether the data set was complete, how the data were solicited, and whether the evaluation guideline was used appropriately to interpret the dioxin concentrations in tissue narrative water quality objectives. This item is being heard by the State Water Board to allow interested parties the opportunity to publicly discuss the listing of Humboldt Bay for dioxins.

POLICY ISSUE

This is an information item only.